

Remarks

Claims 1-5 were allowed in the parent application, serial number 09/319,197, filed June 2, 1999, now abandoned. Therefore, no amendment to claims 1 - 5 is made at the present time. New claims six 6, 7, 11, and 12 claim the rhizome, or reproductive roots of the *Boehmeria nivea* (L) Gaud plant designated P.I. 87521-X, and a method for propagating the plant via sowing of the rhizome roots. Support for the new claims six 6, 7, 11, and 12 can be found, *inter alia*, in paragraph 0015 of the specification.

Claims 10 and 16 claim an animal feed comprising *Boehmeria nivea* (L) Gaud plant designated P.I. 87521-X. Support for claims 10 and 16 can be found in paragraphs 0019-0020 of the specification. Therefore, no new matter is believed to be introduced by these claims.

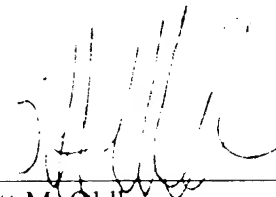
Claim 13 claims a seed of the plant of claim 2. Support for claiming seeds is found in paragraph 0014 of the specification. Therefore, no new matter is believed to be introduced by this claim.

Claims 8, 9, 14, and 15 claim tissue culture of the plant. As these claims are further limitations of claims 2 and 5, and tissue culture is an inherent storage means for plants, no new matter is believed to be introduced by these claims.

Conclusion

Applicants urge that the claims as they currently stand are distinguishable over the cited art and respectfully request that the Examiner issue a notice of allowance for all claims.

Respectfully submitted,
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